

Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 5769
October 7, 2008

For on this day shall atonement be made for you, to cleanse you; from all your sins shall ye be clean before the LORD.

LEVITICUS 16:30

Yom Kippur is the Jewish Day of Atonement and the most holy day in the Jewish faith. From the time the Kol Nidre is recited until the Shofar is sounded, Jews around the world will draw nearer to God through acts of atonement, fasting, and prayer. Jewish tradition teaches that on Yom Kippur, God remembers every name, listens to every petition, and offers forgiveness to the repentant.

On this day, Americans are reminded of the great blessings of religious freedom and the unalienable rights bestowed upon all people by the Creator of life. May God grant us peace, comfort, and hope for all the challenges we may face in the year ahead.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a blessed day and a most meaningful fast.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks on Signing the United States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Nonproliferation Enhancement Act
October 8, 2008

Thank you for coming. Welcome to the White House. Today I have the honor of signing legislation that builds on the growing ties between the world's two largest democracies, India and the United States. This legislation will enhance our cooperation in using nuclear energy to power our economies; it will help us work together even more closely to reduce the danger of nuclear proliferation across the world.

This legislation represents more than 3 years of hard work by a lot of people. I appreciate the work of the Indian-American leaders from across the Nation. I thank the Members of the United States Congress for working hard on this piece of legislation. I'm especially grateful for the leadership provided by Speaker Nancy Pelosi, John Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, who worked hard to make sure

this bill made it through both Houses at the very end of the session. *[Laughter]*

I want to thank the Foreign Affairs—*[applause]*. I thank the leaders of the Foreign Affairs Committees in the House and the Senate: Senator Joe Biden; Dick Lugar; Chris Dodd, who's with us; as well as Representatives Howard Berman and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen. I also welcome the Members of Congress here on the stage who worked hard to get this legislation done. I appreciate so very much the contributions of two leaders who played an important role in crafting this legislation, the late Henry Hyde and the late Tom Lantos.

Other Members who've joined us: John Warner, Senator from Virginia; Eliot Engel, Democrat, House Foreign Affairs committee member from New York; Congressman Joe Crowley from New York. I thank the members of the administration who have joined us—Mr. Vice President, thank